

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1-24. (Cancelled).

25. (New) Polyketone fibers comprising polyketone fibers having a minimum value of a UV absorbance ( $A_{\min}(F)$ ) observed in a wavelength region of 210 to 240 nm of 0.5 or less, said polyketone fibers being produced by a process satisfying the following (a), (b) and (c).

(a) a polyketone containing 95% by mole or more, on the basis of the total repeating units, of a repeating unit represented by the formula (1) is dissolved in an aqueous metal salt solution which contains a zinc salt and at least one metal salt other than the zinc salt selected from the group consisting of lithium, sodium, potassium, magnesium, calcium, iron, cobalt, nickel and copper to form a polyketone solution.



(b) a concentration of the zinc salt in the aqueous metal salt solution is 10 to 60 wt% and

(c) the above obtained polyketone solution is injected through a spinneret, wherein when a period of time from dissolving the polyketone in the aqueous metal salt solution to injecting the polyketone solution through a spinneret is divided into minutes and the arithmetic mean of a heating temperature at t-1 minutes from dissolution of the polyketone and a heating temperature at t minutes therefrom is represented by  $T_t(K)$ , the following formula (2) is satisfied, while the polyketone in the solution injected

through the spinneret has a minimum value of a UV absorbance ( $A_{\min}(S)$ ) observed in a wavelength region of 210 to 240 nm of 0.5 or less

$$S = \sum_{t=1}^{t=P} 1.53 \times 10^8 \times [\exp(-8547/T_t)] \leq 1.00 \text{ X X X X (2)}$$

wherein  $t$  in (2) is a natural number from 1 to  $P$  (minutes), provided that when there is a fraction of less than 1 minute in the period from dissolving the polyketone in the aqueous metal salt solution to injecting the polyketone solution through a spinneret, the fraction is eliminated with the resultant period being  $P$ .

26. (New) The polyketone fibers according to claim 25, wherein the polyketone fibers show a tensile strength of 10 cN/dtex or more and a tensile elastic modulus of 200 cN/dtex or more.

27. (New) The polyketone fibers according to claim 25 or 26, wherein the polyketone fibers show  $A_{\min}(F)$  of 0.3 or less.

28. (New) The polyketone fibers according to claim 26, wherein the polyketone fibers show a tensile strength of 12 cN/dtex or more and a tensile elastic modulus of 250 cN/dtex or more.

29. (New) The polyketone fibers according to claim 28, wherein the polyketone fibers show a tensile strength of 15 cN/dtex or more and a tensile elastic modulus of 300 cN/dtex or more.

30. (New) The polyketone fibers according to claim 25 or 26, wherein the number of filaments is from 100 to 5,000, and the number of fluffs is 10 or less per 10,000 m.

31. (New) The polyketone fibers according to claim 25 or 26, wherein the polyketone fibers show a heat-resistant tensile strength retention of 75% or more.

32. (New) A twisted yarn cord formed out of the polyketone fibers according to claim 25 or 26, and having a twist factor K represented by the following formula of from 1,000 to 30,000:

$$K = Y \times D^{0.5}$$

wherein Y is a number of twist (T/m) per m of the twisted yarn cord, and D is the total size (dtex) of the yarn prior to twisting.

33. (New) The twisted yarn cord according to claim 32, wherein the tensile strength is 5 cN/dtex or more.

34. (New and Withdrawn) A treated cord prepared by imparting a resorcin-formalin-latex resin to the twisted yarn cord according to claim 32.

35. (New) A fiber-reinforced composite material containing the polyketone fibers according to claim 25 or 26.

36. (New) The fiber-reinforced composite material according to claim 35, wherein the fiber-reinforced composite material is a tire or a belt.